DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 278 041 CS 210 280

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TITLE Newspapers Are for Kids, Too! A Newspaper in Education Handbook for Parents [and] Eddy Torial Brings Big News for Small People (Fun Activities with the Newspaper for Kids).
INSTITUTION Press/Sun-Bulletin, Binghamton, NY.
PUB DATE 81
NOTE 23p.
PUB TYPE Guides - Classroom Use - Materials (For Learner) (051) -- Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055) -- Guides - Classroom Use - Guides (For Teachers) (052)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Creative Activities; Educational Games; Elementary Education; *Enrichment Activities; *Learning Activities; *Newspapers; *Parent Child Relationship; *Parent Materials; Parent Participation; *Parent Role; Parent School Relationship
IDENTIFIERS *Newspaper in Education Program

ABSTRACT

Focusing on the theory that the newspaper can play an active role in children's education, this handbook shows parents how to use the newspaper to help their children learn and review the many skills needed in today's complex world. It suggests that parents (1) share the responsibility for teaching their children, (2) keep in mind children's strengths and weaknesses and refrain from forcing an activity if they become restless or disinterested, (3) give children plenty of time to browse through the newspaper independently, and (4) encourage children to use their imagination. The activities described in the booklet cover the areas of reading, writing, social studies, mathematics, and science. In addition, an illustrated, smaller booklet titled "Eddy Torial Brings Big News for Small People" suggests to children ways in which they can have fun with the newspaper. (JD)

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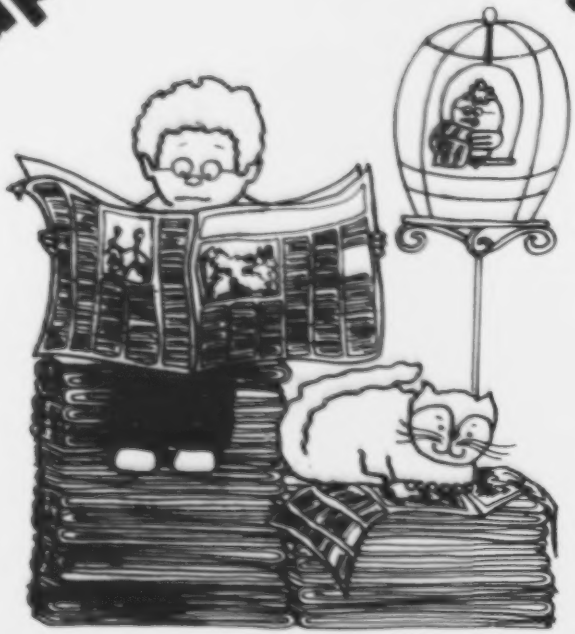
Newspapers are for kids, too!



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A newspaper in education handbook for parents.

THE PRESS & The Sun-Bulletin

Vestal Parkway East, Binghamton, N.Y. 13902

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Introduction

Learning is a lifelong, ongoing process that begins in the home. Learning takes a lot of practice, but it can be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for children and parents alike. Although you may not have realized it, you have at your fingertips a wealth of information to share with your child. The newspaper, often delivered daily to your doorstep is an excellent home textbook and the perfect educational tool. It can be used creatively to help your children improve reading, writing, social studies, math and science skills.

The newspaper is a living, working application of the skills being learned. It can be used to bring these skills to life for your child.

Your child learns many things in school such as how to read and work with numbers. These skills require constant reinforcement and practice. You, as a parent, are one of the most influential factors in your child's life. You can do a great deal to reinforce skills learned in school and foster a love of reading. Read to your child everyday and allow your child to read to you.

Parents feel comfortable using the newspaper because they are familiar with it. Along the same line, children enjoy it because it makes them feel grown-up and important to read the same things as their parents. Also, all that is needed is a newspaper, occasionally scissors, paste, construction paper and, most importantly, time. Pick a time when you and your child can sit down together and talk, read and think about the world.

A newspaper provides more than just news and entertainment. It contributes to the continuing education of all readers from child to adult. Your local newspaper has something for everyone ,including your child.

A newspaper can bring you to far away places and help bring insight into your own community. Help your child discover the world. Play an active role in your child's education by helping him discover the world through newspapers.

Suggestions for parents:

- Parents and teachers share the responsibility of teaching today's children. This booklet is designed to show parents how to utilize the newspaper to help their children learn and review the many skills needed in today's complex world.

- Remember-all children have their strengths and weaknesses and most need to practice a skill many times before it is learned. All children are not ready for the same skills at the same time. Don't force a child to do an activity which is too difficult.Stop an activity if the child becomes restless or loses interest. A restless child will not learn.

- Give your child plenty of time to just browse through the newspaper on his own.

- These ideas are just the beginning. Use your imagination. Encourage your child to use his imagination. Play games and enjoy yourselves. Relax-learning can be and should be fun.

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Follow Eddy through the wonderful world of newspapers.

ACTIVITIES:

Reading

Match capital and small letters you have found in the newspaper.

Cut out words that name a color. Paste them on the right color construction paper.

Make an alphabet book. Cut out the 26 letters and paste one at the top of each page. Then paste examples of each letter on the proper page. Also, paste words and pictures beginning with the letter on the page.

Cut letters from the newspaper to spell your name.

Cut out a headline. Cut the words apart. Scramble them up. Try to put it back together. Give it to a friend to try.

Find a news article that interests you. Read it out loud.

Read a comic strip. Cut apart the panels. Try to put them back in the correct order. Read a second comic strip, but cover up the last panel. Predict what will happen in the last panel.

Cut several short articles from the paper and clip the headlines. Mix the headlines and the stories together; see if you can match the correct headline to the correct story.

Read a news story and write a new headline for it.

Read a news story. See if you can pick out: who the story is about, what the story is about, when it took place, where it took place, and why it took place.

Using the newspaper, make your own jigsaw puzzle. Paste photos or pages onto cardboard. Cut the cardboard into several pieces. Mix the pieces up and put them back together. Make puzzles as gifts for friends.

Look through the paper and make a list of all the words you can find which you think describe you.

Study an ad with a number of items in it for a few minutes. Turn the ad over and write down all the items you can remember. Turn the ad back over and see how well you did.

Read the "Help Wanted" ads in the classified section. Put an "X" on any job you think might not be needed in 100 years.

Circle all words that have double letters.

Put words from a front page headline in alphabetical order.

Cut out a comic strip for several days. Paste the ends of the strip together and roll them up. Unroll the strips when you want to read the continuing story.

Writing

Find unusual or funny photos in the newspaper. Cut off the captions and write your own funny titles or captions.

Cut out newspaper pictures of workmen's tools. Paste each one on paper and label it. Cut out a classified ad for a job that would use each tool. Then write a story called "When I grow up, I want to be..."

Cut out all the numbers of your phone number. Paste them in the proper order on a piece of paper.

Write a friendly letter to your favorite sports hero, someone who has won a contest or to a syndicated columnist asking for advice.

Read a sports article. Write down all the action words.

Find a photograph in the paper that shows action. Write or discuss what you think happened and what will probably happen next.

"Write" a story by cutting words from the newspaper and pasting them on a piece of paper.

Find words in headlines that begin with the same letter. Write a tongue twister using as many of the words as possible.

Make a crossword puzzle using names of people in the news.

Collect photos that show people's emotional expressions. Put them in a scrapbook and label the emotions.

Find a picture of your favorite animal. Write or tell a story pretending to be that animal.

Find pictures of people having fun. Make a poster with these pictures.

Find examples of contractions in the newspaper. Write the two words from which each contraction was made.

Circle all compound words you can find on a page of the paper. Draw a line to separate each one into it's two smaller words.

Find the days of the week and cut them out. Put them in the correct order.

Make a "ME" poster by finding pictures of things you like and don't like and pasting them on a poster board.

Cut out words that describe you. Write an advertisement for yourself.

Find examples of rhyming words in ads.

Cut out pictures of machines and make a scrapbook. Write or tell what each machine might be used for and who is most likely to use it.

Rewrite a comic strip as a news story. Don't forget to include the five W's: who, what, when, where and why.

Write a newspaper article reporting a school function.

Select 10 vocabulary words and find their definitions.

Select a "Help Wanted" ad and write a letter responding to the ad.

Rewrite a nursery rhyme as a news article, using headline.

Using the words found in one article, make a crossword puzzle.

Social Studies

Cut out photos of important people and write their names on the back. Play a game with your family and friends and see who can recognize the most newsmakers.

Make a scrapbook about another country or state by collecting pictures and articles about it.

Use a weather map to learn the names of the states. Each day, find and label one more state.

Find a story in the paper that describes the way things used to be. Compare it to the way things are today.

Make a sports dictionary. Choose words from the sports section of the paper and write your own definitions.

Find stories about people who broke rules. What rules were broken? Read the story and think of a fair way to deal with the person.

Collect pictures and stories about New York. Include sections on people, weather, government, places to see...

Cut out pictures and stories about your favorite place in the world and make a scrapbook.

Write an editorial based on a school issue.

Find an opinion piece about a current news story.

Mathematics

How many different colors can you find in today's paper? Count them and name each color.

Look for all kinds of different numbers. Using your crayons, circle all the ones in yellow, the tens in red, the hundreds in green and the thousands in blue.

Count how many pictures of people you can find in section A of today's paper.

Look at the weather report and find the difference between the high and low temperatures predicted for today.

Circle the smallest and the largest numbers on a page. Subtract the two numbers.

Pretend you have $30 to spend on food for your family. Go shopping in the food ads and decide what you would buy. Don't forget to keep a total so you don't overspend.

Find a recipe in the paper. Increase the amounts in the recipe so it will feed twice as many people. Decrease it so it will feed half as many people.

Find a supermarket ad. Using a red crayon, circle all things you can buy for less than a dollar.

Cut out coupons from the grocery ads. Put them in order from least expensive to most expensive.

Read the "Help Wanted" section and find a job that lists a salary. Figure out the hourly, daily, weekly and annual wage.

Pretend you have $200. Go shopping in the ads and buy things you need and want. Don't forget to keep a total.

Science

Read the weather report. Describe what type of clothing you should wear in that kind of weather.

Keep a scrapbook showing changes on the weather.

Find the high temperatures in five different cities in the country. List them from highest to lowest.

Write menus for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Be sure to include foods from the four food groups. Using the food ads, figure out how much it would cost to feed a family of four.

Keep a scrapbook on new discoveries in our solar system.

Make an "energy saver" notebook. Collect articles which tell how to conserve energy. Look at today's weather map and find areas in the country that have bad weather. What caused the bad weather? What could have been done to prepare for this bad weather if we knew about it in advance?

What is today's weather? Write your own weather report for radio or television.

Make a four seasons scrapbook. Label the pages spring, summer, fall and winter. Collect pictures of clothing that people wear at each time of the year and paste them on the proper page.

Plot low and high temperatures of your area on a graph for five days.

Make a science calendar for five days with a "Science Event of the Day."

Make a weather booklet by cutting and pasting daily weather reports.

Glossary

1. **AP** - Abbreviation for The Associated Press

2. **Assignment** - A story that a reporter has been told to cover

3. **Banner** - A large headline running across the entire width of the page

4. **Beat** - A reporter's regular routine for covering news stories

5. **Byline** - The reporter's name, appearing above a news or feature story

6. **Caption** - An explanation which appears under a picture

7. **Copy** - All of the printed material in the newspaper

8. **Dateline** - The line at the beginning of a news story telling where the event took place and sometimes the date

9. **Deadline** - Time at which all copy, pictures, etc. for an edition of the newspaper must be ready for production

10. **Feature Story** - A news story which does not have to be printed at a specific time to be newsworthy (is not timely).

11. **Filler** - A story used to fill space - has little news value

12. **Flag** - Nameplate; a newspaper's title, usually appearing in large type near the front page

13. **Headline** - Larger type set above a news story, intended to create reader interest and serve as a key to what the story is about

14. **Jumpline** - A line of type showing where a story is to be continued or from where it has been continued

15. **Lead** - The first paragraph of a news story. It answers the who?, what?, when?, where?, why?, and how? of the story

16. **UPI** - Abbreviation for United Press International

17. **Wire Copy** - Stories sent "over the wires" from AP, UPI or any of a number of other wire services

CUT IT. GLUE IT.

READ IT.

MARK IT. COLOR IT.

We can show you how.

Eddy Torial brings Big News for Small People

(Fun activities with the newspaper for kids)

Newspaper in Education

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Look through the classified ads to find services.

List the types of services mentioned such as: plumbers, electricians, painters, etc.

How many of each service are mentioned?

How else can these services be advertised?

Choose one service and write an ad for yourself.

Cut out and paste on your paper 3 or 4 pictures showing people at work. Then write the answers to these questions:

Does the job take special training?

Does the person wear special clothing?

Where does the person work?

How would you like this particular job?

Clip a sports story from the newspaper.

Underline all the words the sports writer uses to describe one action.

Using the index, find the classified pages,

Choose an ad that offers a pet for sale.

Cut out the ad and paste it on a paper.

Draw a picture of the pet described in the classified ad.

Pretend you are that pet. Write a short story about:
The family with whom you live.
The reason you are being sold.
The type of person you hope will be your new owner.

Draw a picture of an imaginary pet from outer space and write a "Lost and Found" ad for it.

In the newspaper, the lines written under a photograph to tell what is happening in the picture is called the **caption** or **cutline**.

Find a picture that you like in the newspaper, cut it out and paste it at the top of a paper.

Now think of as many words as you can that tell about the picture. Write the words under the picture. (Get help with the spelling if you need it.)

Maybe someone else can think of some more words for your list.

Now write a new caption or cutline about the picture using the words you wrote down.

Now try it again with another picture.

Look at the classified advertising pages. Find an ad that offers a house for sale.

Cut out the ad and paste it on a paper.

Now draw a picture of the house as it is described in the ad.

Is there a price in the ad?

Do you think the price is fair?

How much money would you offer for the house?

Write your answers on your paper.

Cut out ten ads about houses. Paste them on paper in order from the cheapest to the most expensive.

Draw a picture of a house you would like to sell. Put a **FOR SALE** sign on it. Write a classified ad to sell your house.

Pretend you are going to sell the house you live in. Describe it in a classified ad. Use words that you think will help sell the house. Choose a price you think is fair for the house.

HEY KIDS!

Look what I just bought through the classified ads!

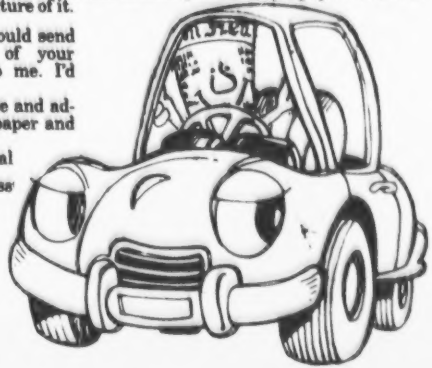
My dream car. And all I did was keep looking through the Automobiles for Sale ads until I found just what I wanted. The ad looked like this:

Classic Car, 1929, bright red with contrasting interior, 8,000 miles, mint condition, only $150.

Maybe you can find your dream car in the classified ads. Cut out the ad and paste it on a paper. Draw a picture of it.

Maybe you would send the picture of your dream car to me. I'd like to see it.
Put your name and address on the paper and send it to:

Eddy Torial
% (the address below).



Using the index, locate the sports section. How many pages are in the sports section?

Using the index, locate the sports section. How many pages are in the sports section?

How many different kinds of sports are mentioned?

What is your favorite sport? Is it mentioned?

Write a story about your favorite athlete, team or event.

Collect pictures showing sports action.

Make a list of the different types of action you see in the pictures. For each picture write a cutline using different action words for each one.

Find three pictures of famous people. Cut them out and write a sentence about what you think of these people.

Look through the newspaper and find two people that are in politics. Write a sentence about each person.

Choose news stories from the newspaper that would be of interest to boys and girls 100 years from now. Beside each, write why you chose it.

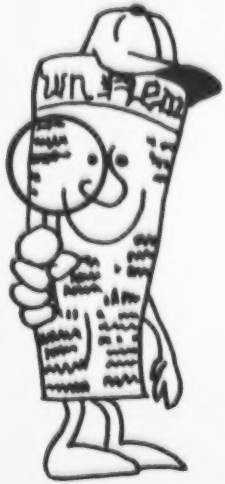
Imagine that you are in charge of preparing a time capsule that will be opened in 200 years. Cut items from the newspaper that you think would tell the most about our lives today. You may want to develop a scrapbook using these clippings.

Locate all the maps in your newspaper today. List the reasons for printing each of the maps you have found in the newspaper.

Find two stories about European countries. Read the stories and write a paragraph about what you think it would be like to live in these countries.

Find articles (at least three) about countries in the Far East. Write a sentence under the story.

Go through your newspaper and find three ways of transportation. Cut them out and paste them in your scrapbook. Write about which form of transportation you like the best.



Let's go shopping. Using the ads in your newspaper, plan a dinner for four people. Figure out how much it will cost you.

Find a large food ad in the newspaper. Circle all the words that tell how the product tastes., and underline all the words that tell how the product looks.

What makes you stop and look at the ads? Make a list of the things that help sell something.

Find the lost and found column in the newspaper. Choose one item that has been lost or found and write a short story about the item; how it was lost, who found it.

Do you have a pet? If there were a want ad written about your pet, what would it say? Write the ad.

Find the letters of your name in the headlines. Cut them out and paste them on a paper. See how many other names you can spell in the same way.

Cut out five headline words that begin with different letters and paste these in alphabetical order on your page.

Choose five different headlines in the newspaper. Rewrite each headline as a complete sentence. Be sure to put in the correct punctuation.

Find and clip out as many good describing words in the ads as you can find. Paste them on chart paper. Beside each word think of something else that it could describe.

Using the sports page make a list of ten terms that would help a foreigner understand the game. Write a paragraph about the sport with the words you have listed.

Cut out a photo from the sports page. Write what is happening in your own words.

Cut headlines from the sports section. Ask your partner to guess what the sport is from the headline.

Turn to the sports section of the newspaper. Clip all the synonyms for "win" and "lose" you can find. Can you add any of your own to your list?

Find the team listings for one sport. Print the team names in alphabetical order.

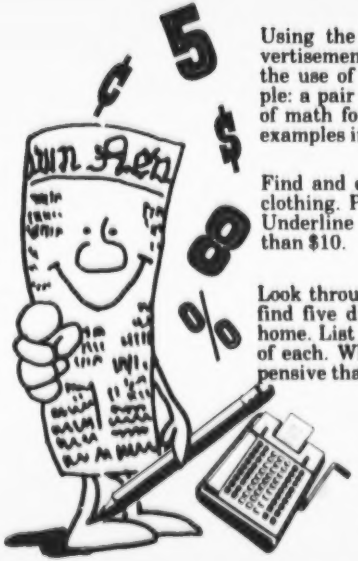
Look through your newspaper and find a story about bad weather. Write a paragraph about the worst weather you have ever been in in your life.

Using only the front page, find as many weather words as you can and write a sentence for each.

Remove the weather map from the newspaper. Find out the weather in Chicago, San Francisco, Miami, Detroit, New York City and Washington, D.C. Predict the weather for the next week in each of these cities.

The forecast tells what the weather should be tomorrow. Write your own weather forecast. Use good describing words.

Find and write the lowest temperature and the highest temperature reported for your city today.

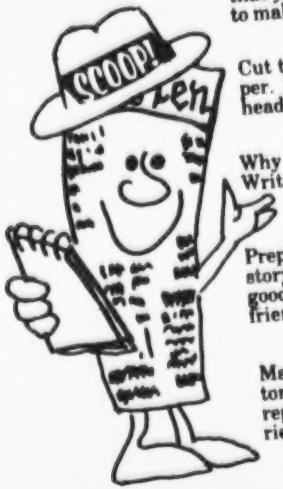


Using the newspaper, cut out advertisements or pictures that show the use of mathematics. For example: a pair of shoes requires the use of math for size. Find ten different examples in your newspaper.

Find and cut out ads for children's clothing. Paste them on your page. Underline those which cost less than $10.

Look through the classified ads and find five different prices for a new home. List the price and description of each. Why is one home more expensive than another?

Read a page of the newspaper and underline all the words and phrases which refer to time. Make a list of all the words and phrases you have found.



Cut out as many headline words that you can read. Use some of these to make a sentence.

Cut two headlines from the newspaper. Write your own story for each headline.

Why might you be in the news? Write a story. Draw the picture.

Prepare a news quiz about a news story you have chosen. Think of five good questions. Give them to a friend to answer.

Make a reporter hat and press button to wear while you are being a reporter and writing your news stories.

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